

LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

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REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
106 HILLCREST DRIVE
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA 27330

FEBRUARY 3, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Lee, State of North Carolina, convened at 6 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room, First Floor, Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive Sanford, North Carolina, on said date. Commissioners present were Amy M. Dalrymple, Dr. Ricky D. Frazier, Dr. Andre Knecht, Charles T. Parks, Robert T. Reives, Kirk D. Smith, and James K. Womack.

Chairman Parks called the meeting to order.

Chairman Parks delivered the invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The Board considered additions/changes to the Agenda. Commissioner Dalrymple asked that an ethics issue be added to the Agenda for discussion. Commissioner Reives asked for an update from the Department of Social Services Director in reference to the NC Fast Program, and Chairman Parks stated he was moving the donation item from Bojangles' from the Consent Agenda to New Business. With no other changes made, Commissioner Reives moved to approve the *Agenda* as amended. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Reives, Smith, and Womack
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Dalrymple moved to approve the *Consent Agenda* which consisted of the following items:

- Minutes from the January 21, 2014 regular meeting, and
- Acceptance of resignation from Matt Sakurada from the Lee County Environmental Review & Advisory Committee.

Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Reives, Smith, and Womack
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Pursuant to N.C. General Statute §153A-52.1, Chairman Parks opened the floor for *Public Comments*. The following signed up to speak and were allowed 3 minutes for comments:

1. Jay Calendine, 210 High Ridge Drive, Apt. 4, Sanford (discussed Resolution opposing lawsuit approved by the Board of Education), and
2. Bob Finch, 1414 Chatham Street, Sanford (withdrew his request since Mr. Calendine discussed everything he had been planning on presenting)

The Board considered a Resolution Opposing North Carolina School Board Association School Voucher Lawsuit. Commissioner Womack presented this Resolution to Commissioners at their January 21st meeting for review. Commissioner Womack discussed the Resolution and the Lee County Board of Education's recent decision to support and join the NCSBA lawsuit that seeks to overturn Session Law 2013-360 implementing Opportunity Grants for low income facilities in the State of North Carolina. He also stated the School Board's support of the lawsuit was an embarrassment to the County's hard working taxpayers and could prejudice the North Carolina General Assembly's view of the values and integrity of our county. Commissioner Womack stated the Board of Commissioners did not appropriate nor approve the expenditure of tax dollars for use in any litigation against the State of North Carolina or its jurisdictions. He further stated he thinks the lawsuit is using taxpayer money and the Resolution is a statement of fact and the Board of Commissioners did not endorse the Board of Education entering into this lawsuit. Commissioner Womack moved to approve the *Resolution Opposing the NCSBA School Voucher Lawsuit Against the State of North Carolina*, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes and by this reference made a part hereof. Commissioner Dalrymple discussed research she had completed on the matter and urged fellow Commissioners to vote in opposition to the Resolution. Commissioner Reives stated he didn't understand why the Resolution was being so hard on the School Board and thinks the language is too harsh. He further stated he didn't think the School Board was out of line in joining in the lawsuit. After further discussion, the results of the motion to approve the Resolution were as follows:

Aye: Knecht, Parks, Smith, and Womack
Nay: Dalrymple, Frazier, and Reives

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted by a 4 to 3 vote. Commissioner Dalrymple asked if result of the vote could be shared with our legislative delegates.

Social Services Director Brenda Potts updated Commissioners on the NC Fast Program. Ms. Potts stated she did not have enough staff to take care of the job in a timely manner and would be asking for additional staff in the near future. No action was taken.

The Board considered the tax lien advertisement for delinquent 2013 real property taxes. Tax Administrator Mary Yow stated that North Carolina General Statute §105-369 (a) requires the tax collector to report to the governing board all unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year. The governing board must order the tax collector to advertise the tax liens. Commissioner Womack asked that the delinquent taxes be posted on the County website so citizens could review prior to being posted in the newspaper. After discussion, Commissioner Dalrymple moved for the tax collector to advertise delinquent 2013 real property taxes as authorized by statute. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Reives, Smith, and Womack
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The Board considered acceptance of a \$500.00 donation to Parks and Recreation from Bojangles' that had been moved from the Consent Agenda at the beginning of the meeting. Parks and Recreation Director John Payne stated that Bojangles' contributed the donation of "unrestricted" funds at the grand opening of their new facility on Tramway Road in December 2013. Mr. Payne stated the donation would go into the Park Maintenance line item to repair back-stops at the Tramway Road Park. After discussion, Commissioner Smith moved to approve acceptance of the \$500.00 donation to from Bojangles'. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Smith, and Womack
Nay: Reives

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted by a 6 to 1 vote. Commissioner Reives stated he voted against the donation because the funds were donated as "unrestricted".

Parks and Recreation Director John Payne discussed with the Board the history of O.T. Sloan Park that was originally developed in the mid-70's, and concept plans for possible renovations and new development at the Park. Mr. Payne stated there has been recent interest shown by private citizens to see what might be possible at the Park if funding could be made available from private, government, and possible grant sources. Mr. Payne stated at this time there is no firm commitment from private funding sources but an interest has been indicated. There is need for additional ball fields, new tennis courts, basketball courts, and a possible covered volleyball court that could be used for other events. Meetings have taken place with City and County officials and Friends of the Park for this possible expansion project. Two vacant lots are for sale (extension off Nash Street) that could be purchased and made part of the Park. The next step is to get everyone together to discuss the project. Mr. Payne expressed that at this time, additions to the Park are only a concept and no definite plans are in place at this time. No action was taken.

The Board considered an audit contract with Martin Starnes & Associates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Finance Director Lisa Minter stated the County is required to have an audit of its financial statements each year. In February 2010, the Board approved a 5-year audit service extension contract with Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A. Pricing for the remaining years from Martin Starnes is \$43,800.00. Each year the Local Government Commissioner (LGC) requires that a Contract to Audit Accounts be approved by the audit firm, the Board of Commissioners, and the LGC before audit work can begin. The contract has been verified and pricing is in line with the proposal received. After discussion, Commissioner Womack moved to approve the *Contract to Audit Accounts* with Martin Starnes & Associates as presented, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes and by this reference made a part hereof. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Reives, Smith, and Womack
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The Board considered Budget Amendment # 02/03/14/09. Finance Director Lisa Minter presented said Budget Amendment appropriating funds for the following departments:

WIA Youth Employment – appropriate \$5,647.00 in additional funds from Triangle South to cover expenses in the current year.

Other Revenue – budgeted \$3,934 in insurance refunds to replace stolen hydraulic pump.

Drug Seizure Fund – rollover \$35,159.00 budgeted in the previous year for the mobile evidence storage system completed by 6/30/13.

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve *Budget Amendment # 02/03/14/09* as presented, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes and by this reference made a part hereof. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Reives, Smith, and Womack

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Dalrymple discussed an ethics issue that was added to the Agenda at the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Dalrymple stated she was concerned about a Commissioner that recently responded to a newspaper blog from a private citizen by using derogatory terms. She stated she was very upset over this and that this was not the way Commissioners should be serving the citizens of Lee County. No action was taken.

County Manager John Crumpton shared with the Board various upcoming meeting dates. He also encouraged Commissioners to attend the monthly Chamber Policy meetings in the future.

Chairman Parks stated he would like to conduct "Town Hall" meetings/forums around the County. He suggested six different dates for a Town Hall meeting/forum at Carolina Trace and asked that Commissioners check their calendars to see which date would work best for them. He also asked Commissioners to let him know if they would like a meeting in their district and he will try to coordinate such meetings. No action was taken.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Reives moved to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Frazier, Knecht, Parks, Reives, Smith, and Womack

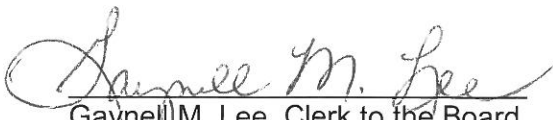
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.



Charles T. Parks, Chairman
Lee County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk to the Board